



SENATOR

MICHELLE A. McMANUS

McManus Minutes



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“This office belongs to the citizens of the 35th district.”

State Senator Michelle A. McManus

Senate approves police badge bill

The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved my bill to expand the list of police identifiers forbidden or restricted for civilian use under Michigan law. The bill also strengthens the penalties for those who violate the law. Under the bill, the crime would be a 93-day misdemeanor instead of a 90-day one. This would mean violators would be required to be fingerprinted and their information entered into the Law Enforcement Information Network. LEIN tracks people and keeps a history of their criminal activity.

Senate Bill 444 would give officers of the law more tools against criminals like two individuals who posed as police officers to trick an 83-year-old Ingham County woman out of thousands of dollars last month. Law enforcement officers report similar scams have been taking place all over the state, especially in the Grand Rapids area, in recent months.

Governor sends “rapid responders” to Baldwin more than six months after she announces prison closure

After many months of knowing she planned to shutter the Michigan Youth Correctional Facility in Baldwin, Governor Granholm deployed her “rapid-response” team of economic development specialists to Lake County this week. It is disheartening to me to that she is just now sending these “rapid responders” to deal with a crisis everyone involved could see coming for months. I believe had she sent those rapid responders to the community in the spring, Lake County might have been better prepared to weather this economic storm.

I have issued a challenge to the governor to personally visit Lake County and explain her decision to the hardworking men and women there. Further, I have requested that her economic development team remain on the ground in Lake County until a suitable economic base is found to fill the void left by the prison. The community needs and deserves help from their governor at this very difficult time.

Contact Me

My door is always open. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding state issues. You can reach my Lansing office by phone at: 517-373-1725; toll free at 866-305-2135, or contact my Cadillac District Office at 231-775-8599. If you received this as a forwarded message and would like to receive future legislative updates via e-mail, you can sign up at my website: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/mcmanus>.